

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the Claims as follows:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A device for protecting a ground fault circuit  
5 interrupter (GFCI) circuit during an over voltage condition from harmful power conditions  
wherein a first mode of protection comprises comprising:

a GFCI;

including a surge protector component connected across the power inputs of the  
GFCI circuit; the device comprising:

10 a low pass filter circuit having a capacitor coupled in series with the solenoid coil of  
the GFCI, said low pass filter connected across the power inputs of the GFCI to pass low  
frequency voltage signals to the GFCI circuit while blocking high frequency signals. circuit  
for filtering transient power surges to the surge protector component to protect the surge  
protector component and allow higher transient power surges than the surge protector  
15 element alone.

Claim 2. (Currently amended) The device of claim 1, having a second mode of  
protection comprising: wherein the a surge protector component includes a metal oxide  
varistor (MOV) coupled in parallel with the capacitor of the low pass filter.

Claim 3. (Currently amended) The device of claim 1 & 2, wherein the surge protector  
20 coupled in parallel with the capacitor comprises a metal oxide varistor (MOV) to shunt a  
moderate over voltage around the capacitor. filter circuit is a low pass filter.

Claim 4. (Cancelled)

Claim 5. (Cancelled)

Claim 6. (Cancelled)

25 Claim 7. (Currently amended) The device of claim 1 & 3 further having a third mode of  
protection comprising:

an over voltage prevention circuit coupled between the phase and neutral conductors of the GFCI to shunt a severe over voltage between the phase and neutral conductors ~~including a spark gap device connected across the power inputs of the GFCI circuit.~~

Claims 8-20. (Cancelled)

5 Claim 21. (New) The device of claim 7 wherein the over voltage prevention circuit comprises a spark gap device coupled between the phase and neutral conductors.

Claim 22. (New) The device of claim 21 wherein the spark gap device is coupled between the phase and neutral conductors on the line side of the GFCI.

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cont* 10 Claim 23. (New) The device of claim 22 wherein the spark gap device is coupled in parallel with the low pass filter.

Claim 24. (New) The device of claim 7 wherein the over voltage prevention circuit comprises a gas tube.

Claim 25. (New) The device of claim 24 wherein the gas tube is coupled in parallel with the low pass filter.

15 Claim 26. (New) The device of claim 7 wherein the over voltage prevention circuit comprises a carbon-block protector.

Claim 27. (New) A device for protecting a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) from harmful power conditions comprising:

20 a surge protector connected between phase and neutral line conductors of the GFCI;  
and

a low pass filter connected in parallel with the surge protector, said low pass filter comprises a zener diode coupled in series with the solenoid coil of the ground fault circuit interrupter.

25 Claim 28. (New) The device of claim 27 wherein the surge protector is a metal oxide varistor.

Claim 29. (New) A device for protecting a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) from harmful power conditions comprising:

a first surge protector connected between phase and neutral line conductors of the GFCI circuit; and

a second surge protector connected in parallel with the first surge protector, wherein said second surge protector comprises a **zenor** diode in series with a resistor.

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Claim 30. (Re-presented – formerly dependent claim 8) The device of claim 7-22, wherein, during an over voltage condition, the ~~over voltage prevention circuit~~ spark gap device limits the voltage applied to the surge protection component, and the low pass filter limits the current applied to the surge protection component.

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Claim 31. (New) A method of protecting a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) from harmful power conditions on phase and neutral line conductors, comprising the step of: connecting a capacitor in series with the solenoid coil of the GFCI to form a low pass filter coupled across the line conductors.

Claim 32. (New) The method of claim 30 further comprising the step of connecting a metal oxide varistor across the capacitor.

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Claim 33. (New) The method of claim 31 further comprising the step of connecting a spark gap device across the phase and neutral conductors.

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